Amendments to the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 3-8, 15-21, 28, 31-34, and cancel Claims 22-27, all as shown below.

1.   (Currently Amended) A system for supporting application deployment, comprising:

a plurality of deployment descriptor[[s]] files that are adapted to describe deployment and configuration information of a plurality of applications deployed on a web server, wherein each application of the plurality of applications is associated with at least one deployment descriptor file of the plurality of deployment descriptor[[s]] files and each said application is deployed in a project directory of a plurality of directories in the web server; and

a builder component capable of

creating a master tree data structure based on a present state of all deployment descriptor files, wherein the master tree data structure represents resources associated with the plurality of applications, wherein ~~the plurality of applications include a first application and~~ the master tree data structure includes a first sub-tree that corresponds to [[the]] a first application of the plurality of applications;

creating a first separate tree data structure based on a current state of source files in a first project directory of the plurality of directories associated with the first application, wherein the first separate tree data structure represents resources associated with the first application;

comparing the first sub-tree that corresponds to the first application in the master tree data structure with the first separate tree data structure; and

refreshing the master tree data structure based on the first separate tree data structure[[,]] if the first sub-tree in the master tree data structure is different from the first separate tree data structure.

2.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a user interface capable of rendering an error message.

3.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 2 wherein:

a user selection of the error message can cause a second user interface to render a user-editable representation of the at least one deployment descriptor ~~component~~ file that is in error.

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4.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a parser capable of generating a representation of the at least one deployment descriptor file;

a generator capable of creating the at least one deployment descriptor file; and

a validator capable of validating the at least one deployment descriptor file.

5.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 4 wherein:

the validator is capable of generating an error when it encounters a syntactic or semantic fault in the at least one deployment descriptor file.

6.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein:

the builder component is further capable of automatically updating the at least one deployment descriptor file to reflect one or more changes in at least one source code file associated with an application in the plurality of applications.

7.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising wherein:

[[the]] a hierarchical representation that can include information pertaining to an archive file.

8.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein:

the at least one deployment descriptor file can be expressed as an Extensible Markup Language document.

9-14.   (Canceled).

15.   (Currently Amended) A method for supporting application deployment, comprising:

deploying a plurality of applications on a web server, wherein each application of the plurality of applications is associated with at least one deployment descriptor file of a plurality of deployment descriptor[[s]] files that describes deployment and configuration information of the plurality of applications on the web server, and each said application is deployed in a project directory of a plurality of directories in the web server;

creating a master tree data structure based on a present state of all deployment descriptor

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files, wherein the master tree data structure represents resources associated with the plurality of applications, wherein ~~the plurality of applications include a first application and~~ the master tree data structure includes a <u>first</u> sub-tree that corresponds to [[the]] <u>a</u> first application <u>of the plurality of applications</u>;

creating a <u>first</u> separate tree data structure based on a current state of source files in a <u>first</u> project directory <u>of the plurality of directories</u> associated with the first application, wherein the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure represents resources associated with the first application;

comparing the <u>first</u> sub-tree that corresponds to the first application in the master tree data structure with the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure; and

refreshing the master tree data structure based on the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure, if <u>the first sub-tree in</u> the master tree data structure is different from the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure.

16.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

providing a parser capable of generating a representation of the at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u>;

    providing a generator capable of creating the at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u>; and

    providing a validator capable of validating the at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u>.

17.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 16, further comprising:

generating, via the validator, an error when it encounters a syntactic or semantic fault in the at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u>.

18.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15, further comprising:

providing a builder component capable of automatically updating the at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u> to reflect one or more changes in at least one source code file <u>associated with an application in the plurality of applications</u>.

19.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein:

including [[the]] <u>a</u> hierarchical representation information pertaining to an archive file.

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20.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein:

expressing the at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u> as an Extensible Markup Language document.

21.   (Currently Amended) A machine readable medium having instructions stored thereon that when executed by a processor cause a system to:

deploy a plurality of applications on a web server, wherein each application of the plurality of applications is associated with at least one deployment descriptor <u>file</u> of a plurality of deployment descriptor[[s]] <u>files</u> that describes deployment and configuration information of the <u>plurality of</u> applications on the web server<u>, and each said application is deployed in a project directory of a plurality of directories in the web server</u>;

create a master tree data structure based on a present state of all deployment descriptor files, wherein the master tree data structure represents resources associated with the plurality of applications, wherein ~~the plurality of applications include a first application and~~ the master tree data structure includes a <u>first</u> sub-tree that corresponds to [[the]] <u>a</u> first application <u>of the plurality of applications</u>;

create a <u>first</u> separate tree data structure based on a current state of source files in a <u>first</u> project directory <u>of the plurality of directories</u> associated with the first application, wherein the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure represents resources associated with the first application;

compare the <u>first</u> sub-tree that corresponds to the first application in the master tree data structure with the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure; and

refresh the master tree data structure based on the <u>first</u> separate tree data structure, if <u>the first sub-tree in</u> the master tree data structure is different from the separate tree data structure.

22.-27. (Canceled).

28.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein:

the interactive tool is capable of automatically repairing a first deployment descriptor <u>file</u> ~~of the at least one deployment descriptors~~ if the first deployment descriptor <u>file</u> is defective.

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29.   (Previously Presented) The system of claim 1, wherein:

the builder component is further capable of creating a tree data structure that embodies hierarchical relationships of nested XML statements.

30.   (Canceled).

31.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein:

the builder component is further capable of

allowing a module to be shared by both the first application and a second application;

disassociating the module from the first application in the master tree data structure, when the module is removed from the first application; and

keeping the module in the master tree data structure to allow the second application to use the module.

32.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a first user interface capable of rendering a hierarchical representation of the plurality of deployment descriptor[[s]] files, wherein a component of the representation can be selected by a user; and

a second user interface capable of rendering a user-editable representation of the selected component.

33.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein:

the builder component is further capable of generating a new deployment descriptor file for the first application from the refreshed master tree data structure.

34.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, further comprising:

a pane that displays a single field for a value, wherein the single field maps to multiple values in the at least one deployment descriptor file.

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